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## **MYRTLE COLE SWORN IN AS FOURTH DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER**

City's first black councilwoman pledges to make southeastern San Diego neighborhoods clean, safe, desirable places to live, learn, work and play

SAN DIEGO, Calif. -- District 4 City Councilmember Myrtle Cole was sworn into office at today's San Diego City Council meeting, filling a five-month vacancy on the nine-member governing panel.

Councilmember Cole, the city's first black councilwoman, won a special election to take the seat of Tony Young who left in January to head the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Prior to the ceremony Cole said she's proud and humbled to stand on the shoulders of past generations of local leaders, including Young and George Stevens, who achieved many successes for District 4 and throughout the city.

"I'm honored to be taking the oath of office today," she said. "I am enthusiast and eager about rolling up my sleeves and getting to work for Council District 4 residents and all citizens of San Diego."

Councilmember Cole has pledged to work tirelessly to make southeastern San Diego neighborhoods "safer, more desirable places to live, learn, work and play." Among her top priorities are public safety, infrastructure improvements and bringing more good jobs and quality shopping into the heart of District 4.

"I am so grateful to the voters for the trust that they have placed with me and I promise to work hard everyday to live up to that trust," she said. "The people are the eyes, ears, hearts and soul of this community and its government. And they deserve transparent, responsive and compassionate government."

A former police lieutenant and long-time community activist, Councilmember Cole most recently worked for United Domestic Workers (UDW), which represents homecare workers that look after seniors, children and people living with disabilities.